

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 255

E. O. 11652: N. A.

TAGS: OVIP: SECRETARY ROGERS

SUBJECT: OPERATIONS CENTER SUMMARY OF SENATE WATERGATE

COMMITTEE HEARING: AFTERNOON SESSION, MAY 22, 1973.

1. ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 22, THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE WATERGATE AFFAIR HEARD TESTIMONY FROM JAMES MCCORD AND JOHN CAULFIELD, TREASURY OFFICIAL, FORMER WHITE HOUSE AIDE AND FORMER EMPLOYEE OF THE COMMITTEE TO REELECT THE PRESIDENT.

2. MCCORD EXPANDED ON HIS TESTIMONY OF THE MORNING OF MAY 22(REFTEL), INTIMATING THAT HIS CALLS TO TWO FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON WERE DESIGNED TO FORCE THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO DISMISS THE CASE AGAINST HIM RATHER THAN ADMIT THAT NATIONAL SECURITY WIRETAPS HAD BEEN PLACED ON THE EMBASSIES' TELEPHONES.

3. CAULFIELD TOLD THE SENATE COMMITTEE HE HAD WORKED IN THE WHITE HOUSE FOR JOHN DEAN FROM JULY 1970 UNTIL MARCH 1972. ON NOVEMBER 24, 1971, CAULFIELD SAID, HE, ACCOMPANIED BY JOHN DEAN, WENT TO THE OFFICE OF THEN ATTORNEY GENERAL MITCHELL TO ASK FOR A JOB ON THE COMMITTEE TO REELECT THE PRESIDENT. LEAVING MR. MITCHELL'S UNCLASSIFIED

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OFFICE, CAULFIELD SAW GORDON LIDDY WAITING TO SEE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MR. DEAN. ON MARCH 1, 1972 CAULFIELD BEGAN WORKING FOR THE COMMITTEE TO REELECT AS

MR. MITCHELL'S BODYGUARD. HE SOON BECAME DISENCHANTED WITH HIS LIMITED DUTIES AND SOUGHT A JOB WITH THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT WHICH HE ASSUMED ON APRIL 28, 1972. CAULFIELD CLAIMED THAT HE RECOMMENDED MCCORD, WHO WAS REFERRED TO HIM BY AN UNNAMED MUTUAL FRIEND, FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE COMMITTEE TO REELECT.

4. CAULFIELD SAID THAT IN DECEMBER 1972 HE RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS LETTER STATING THAT THE WHITE HOUSE WAS BENT ON HAVING THE CIA TAKE THE BLAME FOR THE WATERGATE BURGLARY AND THAT THIS WAS "DESTRUCTIVE" AND DANGEROUS. CAULFIELD BELIEVED THIS LETTER CAME FROM MCCORD AND GAVE IT TO JOHN DEAN. WHILE AT A CONFERENCE ON DRUGS AT SAN CLEMENTE IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, CAULFIELD TESTIFIES, HE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL IN HIS HOTEL ROOM FROM JOHN DEAN WHO ASKED HIM TO RETURN THE CALL FROM A PUBLIC TELEPHONE BOOTH. CAULFIELD COMPLIED AND DEAN ASKED HIM TO DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO MCCORD: "A YEAR IS A LONG TIME. YOUR WIFE AND FAMILY WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF. YOU WILL BE REHABILITATED WITH EMPLOYMENT." CAULFIELD SAID THAT DEAN STATED MCCORD WOULD UNDERSTAND. CAULFIELD SAID HE TOLD DEAN HE WOULD RATHER NOT DELIVER THE MESSAGE AND SUGGESTED AN INTERMEDIARY WHO DELIVERED IT AND REPORTED THAT MCCORD WAS SATISFIED.

5. CAULFIELD TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT SOON AFTERWARDS DEAN AGAIN ASKED HIM TO SEE MCCORD. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY 12 AT THE SECOND OVERLOOK ON THE GEORGE WASHINGTON PARKWAY. THERE, CAULFIELD SAID, MCCORD TOLD HIM HE FELT THAT IF ONE PERSON WENT TO JAIL, ALL MUST GO. HE WANTED HIS FREEDOM. CAULFIELD SAID HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS ONLY A MESSENGER. HE REITERATED THE OFFER OF CLEMENCY AND SAID HE THOUGHT IT CAME FROM THE/ HIGHEST/ LEVELS OF THE WHITE HOUSE" AND WAS SINCERE. CAULFIELD STATED HE KNEW A WAY HE COULD OBTAIN HIS FREEDOM AND REVEALED THAT HE HAD CALLED TWO UNCLASSIFIED

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EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON, WHOSE TELEPHONES HE BELIEVED TAPPED, TO ASK FOR VISA INFORMATION. ACCORDING TO CAULFIELD, MCCORD ASSERTED THAT IF THIS EVIDENCE WERE INTRODUCED INTO HIS TRIAL, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DISMISS THE CASE RATHER THAN ADMIT THE TAPS. IN REPLY, CAULFIELD SAID, HE RENEWED THE OFFER OF CLEMENCY. HE TESTIFIED THAT SUBSEQUENTLY HE REPORTED HIS CONVERSATION WITH MCCORD TO JOHN DEAN.

6. ON JANUARY 13, CAULFIELD SAID, HE MET WITH DEAN AND RELATED MCCORD'S IDEA FOR HAVING THE CASE AGAINST HIM DISMISSED. ACCORDING TO CAULFIELD, DEAN STATED, "I'LL SEE ABOUT THAT." AND REQUESTED CAULFIELD

TO TELL MCCORD AGAIN THAT THE CLEMENCY OFFER WAS SINCERE AND CAME FROM " THE VERY HIGHEST LEVEL OF THE WHITE HOUSE." CAULFIELD SAID THAT IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUESTION, DEAN INSTRUCTED HIM NOT TO SAY THE OFFER CAME FROM THE PRESIDENT. CAULFIELD TOLD THE COMMITTEE HE ASSUMED THE OFFER STEMMED FROM JOHN ERLICHMAN.

7. CAULFIELD TESTIFIED THAT HE MET MCCORD AGAIN ON JANUARY 14, PASSED ON DEAN'S MESSAGE, AND SAID THE WHITE HOUSE WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE WATERGATE SCANDAL AND FELT MCCORD WAS THE ONLY DEFENDENT NOT COOPERATING. CAULFIELD SAID HE THEN REPORTED TO DEAN THAT MCCORD WAS NOT INTERESTED IN CLEMENCY. CAULFIELD STATED THAT DEAN INSTRUCTED HIM TO SEE MCCORD AGAIN BUT NOT TO REPEAT THE OFFER OF CLEMENCY. CAULFIELD SAID HE CALLED MCCORD JANUARY 15 AND SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE WHITE HOUSE WAS DOING ANYTHING ABOUT MCCORD'S WIRE TAP PROPOSAL. CAULFIELD SAID THAT MCCORD BECAME ANGRY AND SAID HE KNEW JEB STUART MAGRUDER WAS GOING TO PERJURE HIMSELF.

8. AT A LATER DATE HE COULD NOT REMEMBER, CAULFIELD SAID, HE MET MCCORD AGAIN AT THE SECOND OVERLOOK AND DROVE WITH HIM IN THE DIRECTION OF WARRENTON, VIRGINIA. CAULFIELD SAID MCCORD TOLD HIM THE CUBAN WATERGATE DEFENDENTS WERE NERVOUS AND MIGHT MAKE A STATEMENT AT ANYTIME. CAULFIELD SAID MCCORD INDICATED HE TOO WAS CONSIDERING MAKING A STATEMENT. ACCORDING TO UNCLASSIFIED

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CAULFIELD, MCCORD ASKED HIM TO ASK DEAN ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS ARRANGING BAIL MONEY FOR HIS APPEAL. CAULFIELD SAID HE PASSED THE REQUEST TO DEAN WHO LATER REPLIED THAT HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO ARRANGE FOR THE PAYMENT OF BOND PREMIUMS.

9. IN CONCLUDING HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE, CAULFIELD STATED THAT AT NO TIMES DID HE PRESSURE OR ADVISE MCCORD TO ACCEPT THE OFFER OF CLEMENCY. CAULFIELD WILL ANSWER THE COMMITTEE'S QUESTIONS ON MAY 23.

10. FOLLOWING THE TELEVISIONING OF THE COMMITTEE HEARINGS, NBC REPORTED THAT SENATOR SYMINGTON HAD REVEALED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE CIA SEVEN SETS OF NOTES AND LETTERS, THE FIRST SIGNED " JIM," THE REST ANONYMOUS,

WARNING HIGH LEVEL CIA OFFICIALS THAT THE WHITE HOUSE WAS TRYING TO PLACE THE BLAME FOR WATERGATE ON THE CIA.

11. GERALD ALCH, MCCORD'S FORMER ATTORNEY, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 22 TO DENY MCCORD'S CLAIM THAT HE (ALCH) HAD URGED MCCORD TO BASE HIS DEFENSE ON AN ASSERTION OF CIA

INVOLVEMENT IN THE WATERGATE AFFAIR. ALCH ALSO REPUDIATED
THE ALLEGATION THAT HE HAD PRESSURED MCCORD TO PLEAD
GUILTY AND THAT HE HAD RELAYED WHITE HOUSE OFFERS
OF CLEMENCY. ALCH STATED HE WOULD MEET WITH SAMUEL
DASH, THE MAJORITY COUNSEL TO THE WATERGATE COMMITTEE,
AT 1700 EDT MAY 22 TO ASK TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. RUSH

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